

# EL PASO HERALD

Established April, 1881. The El Paso Herald includes also, by absorption and succession, The Daily News, The Telegraph, The Telegram, The Tribune, The Graphic, The Sun, The Advertiser, The Independent, The Journal, The Republican, The Bulletin.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND AMER. NEWS PUBLISHERS' ASSOC.  
Entered at the Postoffice in El Paso, Tex., as Second Class matter.

Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed.

Business Office ..... Bell 115  
Editorial Rooms ..... 115  
Society Reporter ..... 2020  
Advertising department ..... 1019

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.  
Daily Herald, per month, 50c; per year \$7. Weekly Herald, per year, \$2.  
The Daily Herald is delivered by carriers in El Paso, East El Paso, Fort Bliss and Tornon, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, at 50 cents a month.  
A subscriber desiring the address on his paper changed will please state in his communication both the old and the new address.

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## Independence and Interdependence

EQUALITY of opportunity, equality before the law, equality in the ballot, these are the guarantees Americans enjoy as a result of the work of our forefathers of 1776. The Declaration of Independence voices the yearning of heart and soul for freer flight, and the Constitution gives form and permanence to the ideas which inspired the men of the old colonies.

And with the equalities came the liberties—liberty of conscience, liberty of speech, liberty of assembly, liberty of choice, liberty of effort. For inequality means unjust barriers, sumptuary law, fixed social caste prejudice, aristocratic oppression, a political priesthood, and privileged classes. The Declaration is a revolt against these things, and in its essential principles it is vital today.

But with the declaration of equality, and the assumption of the liberties of freemen, there came also the obligation of duty, the interdependence of social units, the brotherhood of man, the bond of the citizen to the state.

In those days, as now, there was much shouting about equality, there was much burning eloquence about liberty—and much Jamaica rum consumed—but when the idea of duty to fellow men, the idea of obligation to the social body constituting the community or the state, was brought forward, the crowds melted away, men sniffed and turned their backs, and the loyal leaders who kept bright the fires of patriotic principle, were left to urge duty upon empty seats.

Equality, liberty, would have become anarchy if there had not been fraternity and organic energy to direct, control, and employ them wisely. Equality may not be equity—liberty may not be law. There is an equality that is false and unjust; there is a liberty that is the license of barbarism and of savagery; it takes cooperative organization to create a state, and that requires a weighing of the equalities against one another to make them equitable, a matching of the liberties against one another to establish the planes of contact and the limitations of interference. The liberty of one ends where another's begins; the equality we talk about is not equality of natural endowments but of artificial restraint; both are idle vapor unless there be a vital democracy in the state, a universal participation in self government, which is restraint for the mutual welfare, self denial for the mutual welfare, wisely directed labor for the mutual welfare.

Of such the signers of the Declaration of July 4, 1776, dreamed. For such they drew the sword. The power of regeneration lay within themselves, just as it lies within us today. By just so much as we fail to realize the fraternity of a democratic state—the mutual obligations of citizenship—by just so much have we failed to use the liberty and equality our fathers sought to insure to us and our posterity.

## Our Wasteful Valley Policy

INCREASED demand for farm products and food is given by the congressional commission on the cost of living as one of the chief factors in the present high average. Americans are consuming more farm products per capita than ever before, and they are demanding all the time a better and better grade of food material. And although land steadily rises in value, the average crop per acre decreases, so that prices tend steadily to rise.

Herein lies a suggestion for our valley land owners. We are letting our land lie idle and unproductive while all the time the demand for our products is increasing, prices are rising, and land values rise so that the annual loss includes both crops that might have been produced and interest that steadily accrues on the investment.

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## The Battle Of July 4, 1910

EL PASO'S celebration of Independence day was a glorious success. In line with the safe and sane idea which has swept the country, El Paso planned a celebration by the municipal government at public expense, supplemented by games and other forms of entertainment. There was band music all day long, either down town or at the pleasure park a few miles out. A basket picnic following the flag raising gave a sort of old fashioned tinge to the day's observance that was thoroughly enjoyed.

Patriotic ceremonies were given due place, and the day's historical significance was not forgotten, yet the people's great annual holiday was made memorable for general entertainment and pleasure. One important result of the new plan is a decrease in fire risk and in danger to the youngsters. When other forms of diversion are provided, the boys and girls are less apt to want to blow themselves up. There will be fewer dead and wounded this year than usual from the battle of Independence day, and there has been no retarding of patriotic impulse.

El Paso has thus set the precedent for a Fourth of July on which the people can show their patriotism without slaughtering and maiming themselves, their friends and the public. The city council by taking steps to provide wholesome amusement and entertainment throughout the day for the entire public, took a step calculated to turn the people away from the practices of the past, when cannons, shotguns, anvils and firecrackers rent the air with their noise and, if they did not injure anybody, racked the nerves of hundreds of nervous sufferers and sick people.

The program as arranged in El Paso did not entirely do away with the annoyance and danger of indiscriminate firing of explosives, but it undoubtedly did away with a great deal of the usual rowdiness, by giving the people something to do, by attracting them to the concerts and the public exercises.

Fireworks at night, properly supervised, afford a beautiful close for a well celebrated day, but fireworks throughout the day, fired off promiscuously anywhere and everywhere, with a reckless disregard of the property and personal rights of others, are a nuisance, and, instead of making the Fourth of July a day of joy and gladness, these practices have made it to many a day of horror and dread.

The value and advantage of a safe and sane Fourth are that it leaves the people physically whole when it is over and patriotically proud of their great country of sensible people.

The ministers who are preaching a burning hell, are not frightening anybody. Too many of our people have been down in San Antonio and Houston lately and have become acclimated.

## UNCLE WALT'S Denatured Poem

BRING my harp and let me sing a joyous and a vibrant lay! Now let my glowing thoughts take wing, on this, my country's natal day! Triumphant in the west rose, this land where blessings now abound—what's that you say! Jim Jeffries' nose was bleeding in the second round! Our fathers said: "Upon this soil no tyrant ever shall abide; here men shall reap the fruits of toil—" Jeff swatted Johnson in the side! I always said that body blow would make the Smoke feel pretty tight. Here Freedom's tree first learned to grow, that boom for which all men aspired. In other lands the people's hopes seemed broken down, and at an end—what's that? He knocked Jeff through the ropes! I don't believe that yarn, my friend. All eyes are turned upon these affairs, to world-old valleys of O'Connell; our march has been to heights sublime, where eagle pinions ever flap—O gee! I cannot write a rhyme until I know who won the scarp!

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## 14 YEARS AGO TO-DAY

(From The Herald of this date, 1896)

The Fourth passed off quietly. There were only a few scorched by premature explosions of firecrackers and two of our forefathers of 1776. The Declaration of Independence voices the yearning of heart and soul for freer flight, and the Constitution gives form and permanence to the ideas which inspired the men of the old colonies.

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## AMUSEMENTS.

### AT THE AIRDOME

"The Married Widow," of the usual class of farce comedy mixups and elopements, is the best thing put on at the Airdome this summer. Not only is it best because the comedy is best, but because the different numbers—everything in it—is far and away ahead of anything else produced there this season. There is not a poor number in the lot, and there are 14 of them—and some are decided novelties, especially Charlie Lee Roy's Heinz song, in which the chorus sings to good advantage. It is the best thing Lee Roy has done, in fact, and it is a pity that he did not have it on his list of songs to sing here. As a producer, also, his work shows up to better advantage this week—although it has been good most of the time—than any time since he began; the members of the cast seem to be more at home and the show appears to go with more life and snap than usual.

Miss Fannie Adler is as chic, girlish and clever as ever, if not more so, and makes her usual hit, "The Little Girl," her song. Miss Lillian Shattuck is still as strong a favorite as ever. Her "Dreamland" song is very pretty and well sung. Miss Adler's "Gimme de Jeff" and "Cotton Town" songs are her two biggest hits.

Miss Josephine Melville, who appeared earlier in the season, is back in the cast, in a character role, and does a song that is well heard. Shining on the "vest moon" is a very pretty number when sung well. It is very pretty as Miss Melville does it.

Harry Devere has the role of an old man, and as well as he did the bit of stuttering man last week. His singing is a feature of the Airdome. Without one of his songs, in clear voice and perfect rhythm, the audience would be disappointed.

Edward Flynn, a clever young actor in any role he takes, works splendidly as the young near-husband of the nearly married widow.

The electrical effects accompanying Miss Shattuck's last song in the first act brought applause from the audience, but then, Francis getting started, the electric effect of late, maybe because he has been elected secretary of the fair association and has painted a free ad for it on the side of the stage, and he has not been introduced for some time.

One of these not on the program, however, was the darkening of the entrance Sunday night just as the curtain went down. A hoodlum leaving the theater stole the light and got away with it while Rich was putting the night's receipts in an automobile and the audience was filling out.

The show will run all week and ought to do a good business, for it is worth seeing.

NEW BILL AT HAPPY HOUR.  
Tonight the happy hour will give an entirely new show, and coming on a tax to its capacity, despite the various amusements. The bill tonight will consist of Fred and Bertie, in singing, dancing and talking. Another act which promises to be good is the "Happy Hour" will be "The Juvenile Entertainers." These young folks are credited with being exceptionally clever.

There will be a complete change of program including motion pictures and illustrated songs.

SMALL FIRE FROM POP-CORN MAN'S GASOLINE

Sunday night about 7:30 the department had a run on the Sheldon hotel, the explosion of the gasoline tank of the popcorn stand opposite the Sheldon, by the postoffice, was the occasion, but when the boys arrived the owner of the dispensary was stamping out the last of it. Total damages, a rag used for wiping the windows of the glass case slightly burned, about two dozen sacks ditto.

Last year the department had two alarms to attend to as the result of carelessness on the part of Fourth of July celebrators. The roof of an East El Paso dwelling was damaged on the Fourth, while the department extinguished a small blaze on the roof of another July 5, both being due to the promiscuous throwing of firecrackers by small boys.

METHODISTS CONVENT AT STANTON; SHOWERS FALL

Stanton, Texas, July 4.—The Methodist conference convened here today with 100 ministers in attendance. Bishop Joseph S. Key is presiding.

Heavy showers have fallen covering an immense territory.

Mayor H. B. Cox, R. S. Shelton, Dr. M. L. Williams and E. C. Pegues have returned from an 800 mile auto trip.

## Cost Of the Celebration

TOLL OF HUMAN LIFE IS THE GREATEST; TETANUS DANGEROUS

TODAY is the "danger mark" on the year's calendar for the American boy. For the 134th time the signing of the Declaration of Independence will be celebrated and ever since the youth of the country has given an explosive expression to its patriotism. The Fourth of July has been a day of dread for parents. It is only within very recent years, however, that any active steps have been taken to check the exuberance of spirit which manifests itself with toy pistols, fire-crackers, cannon and dynamite.

The toll which the unsane and unsafe Fourth has exacted from the minors of the land never has been computed but it is safe to say that the total cost of the celebration in human blood, is so enormous as almost to discredit any person who would venture to estimate it. The Washington Post declared recently that the number of dead and wounded as a result of the Fourth of July celebrations for the last seven years has been more than 30 times as great as the number of Americans killed and wounded in seven battles of the Revolutionary war—Lexington, Bunker Hill, Fort Mifflin, White Plains, Cowpens, Fort Washington and Monmouth.

### Casualties Appalling.

The appalling number of casualties which invariably followed what was primarily designed as a patriotic, harmless celebration eventually quickened the public conscience of many cities throughout America, and caused steps to be taken to put a check to the wholesale maiming and killing of the children of the nation. Restrictions are placed on the sale of guns, fireworks, and other dangerous articles.

From this has developed a well defined movement for what is known as the "safe and sane" celebration of the Fourth of July, the cities adopting regulations prohibiting the use of fireworks except in restricted areas, and in some cases even forbidding their sale. Toy pistols have been put under the ban and the health department has issued orders prohibiting the sale of fireworks except in restricted areas, and in some cases even forbidding their sale. Toy pistols have been put under the ban and the health department has issued orders prohibiting the sale of fireworks except in restricted areas, and in some cases even forbidding their sale.

Several years ago the Chicago Tribune joined in the active crusade against the noisy